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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT	
SUBJECT	T/O & E of 10th Guards Separate Guards Battalion and of the Reconnaissance Company of 24th Mechanized Regiment	DATE DISTR.	19 November 1954
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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
 THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
 (FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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ARMY review completed.

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

STATE	#X	ARMY	#X	NAVY	#X	AIR	#X	FBI	AEC			
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REPORT

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COUNTRY East Germany

DATE DISTR. 30, Sept 1954

SUBJECT T/O & E, Weapons, and Equipment

NO. OF PAGES 11

DATE OF INFORMATION

REFERENCES:

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Gd. Bn., Potsdam

This unit was subordinate to the Counterintelligence Administration, GSFG, in Potsdam. It served as a guard unit for the compound, and the field prison located in the compound, and personnel occasionally escorted prisoners being returned to the USSR as far as Brest-Litovsk.

the 10th Sep.

2.

[redacted] the organization of the 10th Sep. Gd. Bn., with the exception of its guard platoons and MG platoons. The EM strengths given for guard companies were estimated and did not constitute actual strength figures. [redacted] the guard companies and Housekeeping Plat. were up to strength, but [redacted] the MT Plat. should have had more personnel. [redacted] there were not enough vehicles in the battalion to move all the personnel and equipment at one time.

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[redacted] actual strength and estimated organization, weapons, and equipment of the 10th Sep. Gd. Bn.:

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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a. Actual Strength and Estimated Organization

the battalion officer strength was 29 by actual count. Based on the rations EM strength fluctuated between 385 and 390. For example, tea was issued on a basis of one gram per man per day. Periodical linen and underclothing exchange issue and issue of matches and tobacco were made on a basis of 115-120 men per company. (See Annex A.)

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(1) Battalion CO and Staff

- (a) CO - Lt. Col. (fnu) SUKHANOV (Technical Troops branch)
- (b) C o S - Capt. (fnu) REZHANKOV (Technical Troops branch); subordinate to battalion CO
- (c) Battalion Staff Officers -
 - 1. Political Off. - Lt. Col. (fnu) TISCHKOV (Technical Troops branch)
 - 2. Supply Off. (Zamestitel' Po Snabzhenyu) - Maj (fnu) SHOFERENKO (Tk. and Mecz. Troops branch); also CO of MT and Housekeeping Plats.
 - 3. Personnel Records and Administrative Off. (Nachal'nik Stroevoy Chasti) - Capt. (fnu) SIGOV (Inf. branch); responsible for secret documents, orders, and administrative matters
 - 4. Party Secretary (PartOrg) - Capt. (fnu) AFANASIEV (Inf. branch)
 - 5. Komsomol Secretary (KomsOrg) - Lt. (fnu) NIRSHA (Inf. branch)
 - 6. Finance Off. (NachFin) - Capt. (fnu) INYOSHIN (Intendance Corps branch)
 - 7. Ord. Off. (Nachal'nik Artvooruzheniya) - Capt. (fnu) VASCHUGIN (Technical Troops branch)
 - 8. Club and Library Off. - Lt. (fnu) SABIROV (Inf. branch)
 - 9. Sr. Surgeon - Lt. (fnu) BUGAKOV (Medical Corps branch)
 - 10. Surgeon - Lt. (fnu) BORUSHKOV (Medical Corps branch)
 - 11. Special Sec. (Osoby Otdel) Off. - a lieutenant, name unknown

(2) Housekeeping Plat. (KhozVzvod)

- (a) There were no officers assigned to this platoon. However, for command purposes, it was subordinate to the battalion Supply Off.

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(b) The unit had a total of 18 EM including NCOs. Of this number, five were "sverkhsrochniki" (regular army enlistees) with the following rank and duties:

1. Plat. Ldr. - master sergeant
2. Chief Mess Sgt. - senior sergeant
3. Cook Instructor - junior sergeant
4. Bn. Chief Administrative Clerk - senior sergeant
5. Bn. Food and Clothing Supply Clerk - private first class

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(c) Other members of the platoon included:

1. Bn. Supply Storekeepers - two privates
2. Administrative Clerk in office of Bn. Supply Off. - private first class
3. Storekeeper, Bn. Arms Room - private first class
4. Movie Camera Operators - two privates (one was also the librarian)
5. Ord. Man - junior sergeant
6. Ord. Man - private
7. Administrative Clerk in office of Personnel Records and Administrative Off. - private first class
8. Bn. Engr. Maintenance Man - private
9. Shoe Repair Man - private
10. Tailor - private
11. Cook - private

(d) With the exception of the "sverkhsrochniki", the men were armed with the 7.62-mm M1944 Mossin-Nagant carbine.

(3) Motor Transport Plat. (AvtoVzvod)

- (a) The platoon was subordinate to the Bn. Supply Off.
- (b) There was one officer, the Plat. Ldr., Lt. (fmu) MARKOV.
- (c) In addition, there were the following EM:
 1. Auto Mechanics - two sergeants
 2. Shop Machinist - one private
 3. Drivers - 20 privates
- (d) All EM were armed with the 7.62-mm M1944 Mossin-Nagant carbine

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(4) Guard Co. x 3

- (a) Each guard company consisted of:
 - 1. CO - captain or major
 - 2. Political Off. - lieutenant
 - 3. Co. Hq. -
 - a. 1st Sgt. - master sergeant
 - b. Medical Aid Man - sergeant
 - c. Company Clerk - private
 - d. Company Supply Clerk (Kaptenarmus) - private
 - 4. Guard Plat. x 2
 - a. Plat. Ldr. - lieutenant
 - b. Plat. Sgt. - senior sergeant
 - c. Three squads, with one NCO squad leader and 10 privates in each squad
 - 5. MG Plat.
 - a. Plat. Ldr. - lieutenant
 - b. Plat. Sgt. - senior sergeant
 - c. LMG Sqd. x 2 - one NCO squad leader and 10 privates in each squad
 - d. HMG Sqd. - one NCO squad leader and either 9 or 12 privates.
- (b) With the exception of the first sergeants of the 1st and 2d Cos., and the Medical Aid Man, 1st Co., who were armed with 7.62-mm TT-M33 Tokarev pistols by virtue of "sverkhsrochnik" status, all EM in the guard platoons were armed with the 7.62-mm PPSh SMG.
- (c) Each LMG squad had five 7.62-mm DP Degtyarev LMGs. One private served as gunner and another private, armed with a 7.62-mm PPSh SMG, served as assistant gunner.
- (d) The HMG Sqd. contained either three or four 7.62-mm M1943 Goryunov HMGs. Each HMG was serviced by three privates - the gunner, assistant, and ammunition bearer. The assistant and the ammunition bearer were armed with 7.62 mm PPSh SMGs.

(5) Miscellaneous

- (a) [redacted] cooks were located and rotated 25X1 in the Housekeeping Plat. and in the companies. This made it impossible to keep track of their number. [redacted]
 - [redacted] A total of 10 were assigned to the battalion.

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25X1

(b) Eight privates were assigned daily from the duty company to pull KP for the entire battalion.

(c) The battalion had a field kitchen (type unknown) parked in one of the motor pool sheds for stand-by purposes. [redacted] the kitchen could not have serviced the entire battalion in an emergency. 25X1

(d) At the time of the 17 June uprisings in Berlin, EM who were armed with the SMG were issued two drums each containing 72 rounds of ammunition. After the emergency was declared over, the ammunition was returned. [redacted] it was returned on or after 28 June. 25X1

(e) Individual EM arms were kept in a rack, under lock and key, in the billets of each Gd. Co. The company CQ had the key to the rack at all times. EM individual weapons of EM in the MT and Housekeeping Plats. were kept in a rack at the MT Plat. billet. The platoon CQ had the key to the rack at all times. Officers' pistols were locked in an arms room at the Bn. HQ building. [redacted] the condition of weapons in the battalion was fair to good. 25X1

(f) A German concern in Potsdam handled the battalion laundry. [redacted] all Soviet units in Pots-25X1 dam turned in laundry at the same point. Regulations called for linen and laundry exchange every 10 days for EM of Gd. Cos. and every week for EM who were technical workers (i.e. mechanics, drivers, etc.) Occasionally, the period was extended several days because laundry from the previous period had not been returned to the unit in time.

b. Weapons (as of June 1954)

(1) Individual Weapons

Type	Total (In Battalion)	Remarks
Pistol, 7.62-mm, Tokarev TT-33	36	Used as sidearms by all officers in the battalion. "Sverkhsrochniki" could draw these pistols as a 25X1 prestige measure. [redacted] [redacted] In the event of hostilities, "sverkhsrochniki" would have to turn in their pistols and draw their normal T/O weapons.
SMG, 7.62-mm PPSH	211	T/O weapon for all EM in the battalion except machine gunners and "sverkhsrochniki". In February 1954 EM of the Housekeeping Plat. and MT Plat. turned in their SMG's and drew 7.62-mm M1944 Mossin-Nagant carbines. No reasons were given for the exchange.

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25X1

<u>Type</u>	<u>Total</u> (In Battalion)	<u>Remarks</u>
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Carbine, 7.62-mm, Mossin-Nagant, M1944	37	Issued to EM of the Housekeeping and MT Plats. in February 1954 as replacement for PPSh SMG's
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(2) Crew-served Weapons

<u>Type</u>	<u>Total</u> (In Battalion)	<u>Remarks</u>
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HMG, 7.62-mm Goryunov M1943	9-12	25X1
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The HMG's were of Soviet manufacture.

LMG, 7.62-mm Degtyarev DP	30(?)	10 per MG plat.
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(3) New Weapons

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a new model rifle, pistol, SMG and carbine had already been issued troops in the USSR to replace old weapons of these types. Troops in Germany were eventually to receive the same weapons.

one standard cartridge was used in all the new weapons.

it was larger than the 7.62-mm pistol cartridge and smaller than the 7.62-mm rifle cartridge. No further information.

c. Vehicles (as of June 1954)

<u>Type</u>	<u>Total</u> (In Battalion)	<u>Primary Use</u>	<u>Condition</u>
Cargo Truck ZIS-5	12	Two were used for everyday hauling jobs. One was used by MT Plat. for driver training. Nine were kept as emergency or stand-by vehicles	Hauling and training - Good, emergency, and poor respectively
Cargo Truck GAZ AA	3	One was used for everyday hauling jobs. Two were stand-by vehicles used during company and battalion tactical training, test, runs, and troop excursions	Fair to poor
Cargo Truck GAZ-63	2	Stand-by or emergency vehicles.	New. They were not issued to replace old trucks but were assigned to the unit as additional vehicles.
Ambulance GAZ-55	1	Used to transport seriously ill personnel to hospitals.	Fair

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Type	Total (In Battalion)	Primary Use	Condition
Sedan, Opel "Kapitan" (military vehicle)	1	Battalion CO's vehicle. Occasionally the CO permitted battalion staff officers to use it.	Fair
Motorcycle, M-72	1	Unknown, possibly a stand-by vehicle.	Unknown. Probably poor. No man was assigned to it as driver. 25X1

3. [Redacted]

[Redacted] actual strength and organization, weapons, and equipment of the Recon. Co.:

a. Actual Strength and Organization (as of November 1951)

25X1

[Redacted] 37 EM as the total in the company through actual count of EM on the company roster. [Redacted] strength should have been 170 men.

[Redacted] (See Annex B.)

(1) Company Headquarters

- (a) CO - Sr. Lt. (fnu) KUZNETSOV (Technical Troops branch)
- (b) Political Off. - Capt. (fnu) POPOV (Technical Troops branch)
- (c) 1st Sgt. - master sergeant; who was also the Sec. Chief, Svc. Sec. (Otdeleniye Obespecheniya)
- (d) Administrative Clerk - private; who was also a driver in the Communications Sec.
- (e) Company Supply Clerk - private; who was also a driver in the Communications Sec.

(2) Communications Sec.

- (a) Section Chief - sergeant
- (b) Radio Operator - junior sergeant
- (c) Motorcyclist - private
- (d) Driver (and Company Supply Clerk) - private
- (e) Driver (and Administrative Clerk) - private

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(3) Svc. Sec.

- (a) Section Chief - master sergeant; who also was company 1st Sgt.
- (b) Chief Mechanic - junior sergeant
- (c) Drivers - four privates

(4) Recon. Plat. x 3

[redacted] there were two armored personnel carrier platoons and one armored car platoon. Each platoon had a lieutenant (platoon leader), a senior sergeant (platoon sergeant), and an unknown number of sergeants and privates.

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25X1

b. Weapons (as of November 1951)

(1) Individual Weapons

[redacted] drivers of armored personnel carriers carried the 7.62-mm M1895 Nagant revolver. Drivers of armored cars carried the 7.62-mm PPSH SMG, and officers carried the 7.62-mm TT-M33 Tokarev Pistol. All other personnel in the company were issued the 7.62-mm M1944 Mossin-Nagant carbine.

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(2) Crew-Served Weapons

The only crew-served weapon in the company was one caliber .50 Browning HMG which was mounted on the M-3A-1 Scout Car, and used for firing practice during summer training.

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c. Vehicles (as of November 1951)

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<u>Vehicle</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Condition</u>	<u>Primary Use and Comments</u>	
M-17 Armored Personnel Carrier	9-10	Fair	Used for tactical training to transport scouts to forward areas and to reconnoiter.	[redacted]
BA 64 Armored Car	8-10	Poor	For tactical training and reconnaissance.	
M-3A-1 Scout Car	1	Poor	Used for driver and firing training; mounted a .50 caliber Browning HMG.	[redacted]
Motorcycle	1	Poor	Used during maneuvers and training. Otherwise kept on blocks.	

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<u>Vehicle</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Condition</u>	<u>Primary Use and Comments</u>	
Studebaker Mobile Repair Unit Truck	1	Fair	Accompanied other vehicles in convoy and repaired them in case of minor breakdowns. [redacted] the repair unit mounted on the chassis was manufactured in Germany.	25X1
Ford Cargo Truck, size unknown	1	Poor	Used to haul food supplies to the officers' mess; not modified.	

2 Annexes:

- A. Actual Strength and Estimated Organization of the 10th Sep. Gd. Bn., Potsdam
- B. Actual Strength and Organization of the Recon. Co., 24th Mecz. Regt., 7th Mecz. Div., Furstenwalde-Ketschendorf (N 52-22, E 14-04)

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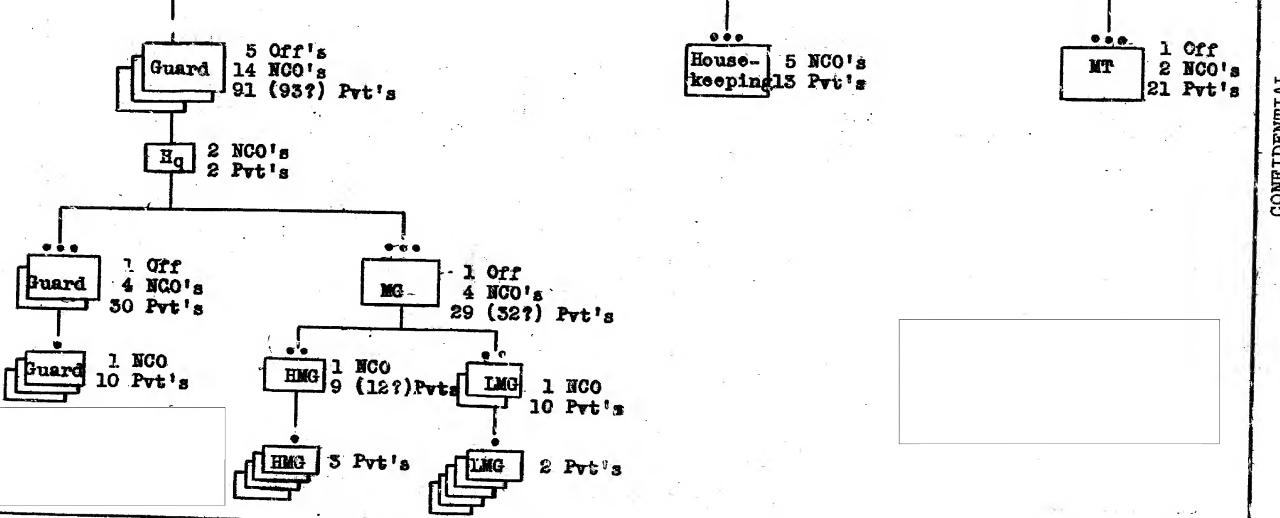
Actual Strength And Estimated Organization of the 10th Sep. Gd. Bn., Potsdam (5224N-1304E)

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Annex A

Actual Strength: 29 Off's
385 EM



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Annex B

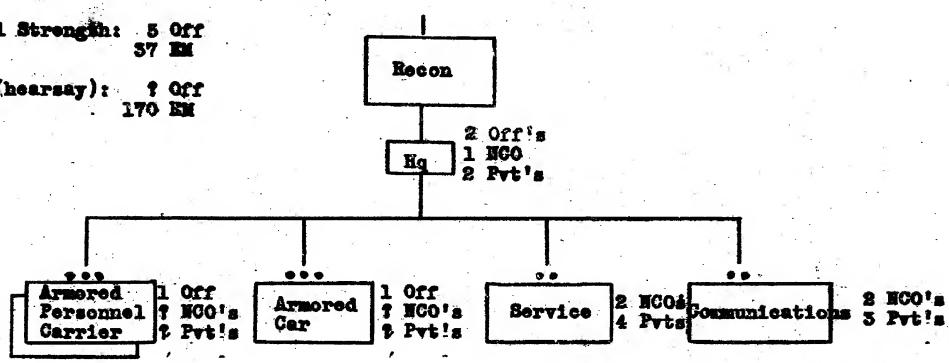
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Actual Strength and Organization of the Recon. Co., 24th Meck. Regt., 7th Meck. Div.,

Furstenwalde- Ketschendorf (5222N-1404E)

Actual Strength: 5 Off
37 EM

%/0 Strength (hearsay): 7 Off
170 EM



Note: The 1st Sgt. of the Recon. Co. was also Chief of the Communications Sec. The two privates who were in Recon. Co. Hq. were also drivers in the Communications Sec.

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